

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

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1. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a part comprising a rigid metal or thermoplastic element (1) of elongate shape, at least one part of which has a cross section which has a profile defining a concave space, and comprising at least one part made of thermoplastic material (2) associated with the rigid element and positioned in the concave space of the rigid element, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material is in contact on at least two lines which are continuous in the longitudinal direction, and in that the part made of thermoplastic material has a cross section comprising at least one hollow (4).

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2. (Currently Amended) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material positioned in the concave space of the rigid element (1) has a profile which is the conjugate of the concave space.

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3. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cross section of the rigid element is closed.

4. (Currently Amended) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the profile of the rigid element (~~10~~) is defined by at least one base (~~11~~) and two opposed walls (~~12a~~, ~~12b~~) defining two corners (~~14a~~, ~~14b~~) with the base and in that it comprises at least two parts made of thermoplastic material (~~15a~~, ~~15b~~) with hollow cross sections (~~18a~~, ~~18b~~) positioned in each corner, each of these parts resting along at least one portion of the base (~~16a~~, ~~16b~~) and at least one portion of the wall (~~17a~~, ~~17b~~) relative to the corner in which it is positioned.

5. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 3, wherein the profile of the rigid element is in the shape of a U or an I.

6. (Currently Amended) The article as claimed in claim 4, which comprises reinforcing ribs (~~20~~) made of thermoplastic material resting at least partly on the parts made of thermoplastic materials positioned in the corners defined by the walls and the base.

7. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, which is obtained by assembling a rigid element and at least one molded element made of thermoplastic material.

8. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rigid element and the molded element are assembled by inseting, welding, bonding, riveting or clipping.

9. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material is shaped by molding inside the concave space.

10. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 9, wherein the shaping is performed by a fluid-injection technique.

11. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 9, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material and the rigid element are secured by the protrusion of thermoplastic material through perforations made in the rigid element.

12. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 9, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material and the rigid element are secured by complete or partial overmolding of the rigid element.

13. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rigid element is a tubular or profiled metal component.

14. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic material is a polyamide.

15. (Previously Presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the part made of thermoplastic material of hollow cross section comprises means for letting a fluid into and out of the interior of the hollow part,


16. (Previously Presented) A fluid-transfer device comprising the article as claimed in claim 1.

17. (Previously Presented) The shield transfer device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the fluids are selected from the group consisting of air water, water containing glycol, fuels and oils.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for producing motor vehicle front face components comprising using the article as claimed in claim 1.

19. (Previously Presented) A heat-exchange device comprising the article as claimed in claim 1.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for fabricating an article comprising at least one rigid metal or thermoplastic element a cross section of which has at least one part defining a concave space and comprising at least one element made of a molded thermoplastic material, comprising at least the following steps:

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- a) arranging, in an injection mold of chosen shape, a preformed rigid metal or thermoplastic element one cross section of which has at least one part defining a concave space,
 - b) injecting molten thermoplastic material into the mold, and
 - c) injecting a fluid or a gas, through a needle into the molten thermoplastic material present in the concave space of the rigid element.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for fabricating an article comprising at least one rigid metal or thermoplastic element a cross section of which has at least one part defining a concave space and comprising at least one element made of a molded thermoplastic material, comprising at least the following steps:

- a) arranging, in an injection mold of chosen shape, a rigid metal or thermoplastic element that is to be preformed,
- b) preforming the rigid element by pressing or by hot forming in the mold, the preform having a cross section which has at least one part defining a concave space,
- c) injecting molten thermoplastic material into the mold, and

d) injecting a fluid or a gas, through a needle into the molten thermoplastic material present in the concave space of the rigid element.

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22. (New) The article of claim 1, wherein the rigid element comprises a reinforced thermoplastic.

23. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein step (a) comprises arranging, in the injection mold of chosen shape, a preformed rigid reinforced thermoplastic element.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) comprises arranging, in the injection mold of chosen shape, a rigid reinforced thermoplastic element that is to be preformed.
